



# City of Norfolk

Office of the City Manager

Dir., Planning & Community Development

Re: July 18, 2006

To the Honorable Council  
City of Norfolk, Virginia

Re: Zoning Ordinance Amendment –  
Permitting Tattoo Parlors by Special  
Exception in the C-2 (Corridor  
Commercial) District.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I. **Recommended Action:** Schedule public hearing.

II. **Overview**

This agenda item is to permit a Zoning Ordinance Amendment permitting Tattoo Parlors by Special Exception in the C-2 (Corridor Commercial) District.

III. **Analysis**

A. **General**

Currently the Code of the City of Norfolk Virginia, 1979, prohibits Tattoo Parlors to be located within the City of Norfolk. There have been, however, several lawsuits in nearby localities in which the Circuit Court determined that the prohibition of such a use is not legal. As a result, the Planning Department is proposing to amend the City Code and The City of Norfolk Zoning Ordinance, 1992 as amended, to permit tattoo parlors in the C-2 (Corridor Commercial District), by special exception. It is our determination that a tattoo parlor is a retail service and therefore would be most suitable in the corridor commercial district.

The proposed amendment would define a tattoo parlor and consider the use as an Adult Use. This proposed change requires both the Planning Commission and the City Council to consider the use of a particular site as a tattoo parlor under the same criteria as an entertainment establishment or a massage parlor including the location criteria and the standards pertaining to uses contrary to the public interest.

B. Fiscal  
N/A.

C. Environmental  
N/A.

D. Community Outreach/Notification  
In accordance with the Norfolk City Charter and Virginia state law, a public hearing is required for this item. Notification for this item will be conducted through the City of Norfolk's agenda notification process.

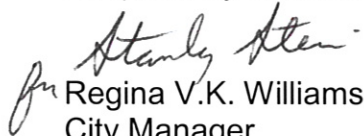
**IV. Board/Commission Action**

**By a 6 to 0 vote**, the Planning Commission recommends **approval** of this text amendment.

**V. Conclusion**

This proposed text amendment would define a tattoo parlor and consider the use as an Adult Use. Scheduling a public hearing would allow the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed agenda item prior to consideration by City Council.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for Regina V.K. Williams  
City Manager

**Coordination/Outreach**

This letter has been coordinated with the Department of Planning and Community Development and the City Attorney's Office.